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WELCOME

HINTERLAND

Festival of Literature & Arts

22 - 25 June / Meitheamh 2023

Fáilte to dtí ár 11ú Féile!

We invite you to join us for a weekend of literature, laughter, debate, art, music, ideas, and reflection – mingling with some of the finest writers, thinkers and artists, as you wander from venue to venue, around our beautiful heritage town.

As our festival enters its 2nd decade, we are excited to be part of shaping a new and confident identity for Kells as the international centre of creativity

Thank you for joining us again.

Bí pairteach linn, le do thoil.

Hinterland Festival Team

Save the date for next year's Hinterland Festival: 27 - 30 June 2024

Programme details are correct at time of going to press.

HINTERLAND TEAM

DIRECTORS OF KELLS LITERARY & CULTURAL FESTIVAL LTD

Myles Dungan, Geraldine Gaughran, Fintan Hogan, Jess Olohan, Bill Sweeney

COMMITTEE

Heather Hanlon
Festival Coordinator,
Liam Carey, Antonia Daly,
Mary Farrell, Kathy Farrelly,
John V. Farrelly, Les Hanlon,
Deirdre Hurley, David
McHugh, Joe McKenna, Carol
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PROGRAMME

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COVER ARTWORK

Ina Olohan

BOOKSHOP PARTNER

Antonia's Bookstore, Trim

THANKS

Thanks to Gerardette Bailey, Aisling O'Brien, Evelyn Fitzpatrick, Loreto Guinan, Sinead McPhillips, John O'Brien, Nollaig Healy, Rob Usher, Amelia Reilly, Ciaran Mangan, Maedhbh Rogan-McGann & the staff of Meath County Council libraries, Robert Miles, Ross Dungan, Rus Bradbury, Matt Spangler, Tony Bucher, Cormac Kinsella, Lyndy Cooke, Paul Elkington & all his fantastic team, Bronwyn Lally, John Moore, Mark Smith, Senan O'Connell, Hugh Morris, Rev William Seale, Gerald Williamson, John Grant, Brian O'Neill, Cathal & Ann McEntee, Rose Grimes, Emilie Gustafsson, Gerard O'Rorke, Olivia Duff and all the team at Boyne Valley Flavours, Orla Hamill, Della Murtagh, Miriam & Martin Skelly, Elaine Long & Blaithín Moran - An Garda Síochána Ceanannas Mór, Kells Arts Club, Meath Civil Defence, Order of Malta Kells, Girley Bog Meitheal, 5th Meath Kells Scout Group, Kells Local Heroes, Anne Cunningham and The Meath Chronicle, Meath Chambers, The Handmade Soap Company, all our Lit Crawl participants, the business owners of Kells for their continued support of the festival, and especially all our wonderful volunteers.

FESTIVAL INFO

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for events can be purchased in advance online at www.hinterland.ie, or by phone via the Box Office on 083 096 9345.

Tickets will also be available in advance in Kells from the BOOK MARKet Café and in Trim from Antonia's Bookstore (tel – 046 943 7532).

During the festival, ticket collection and sales are available at the ticket office in at Kells Theatre: Eircode A82 PX65

FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP

Books by festival authors will be available over the entire weekend in the Festival Bookshop at Kells Theatre. Book signings will take place at the venues after the author's event.

GETTING TO KELLS

BY BUS – from Dublin: Bus Aras, Route No. 109. From Dublin Airport: Route No. 109A. Allow 90 minutes' travel time.

See www.buseireann.ie for detailed timetables.

BY ROAD – take the M3. Exit at Junction 10 for Kells. Allow 60 minutes' travel time from Dublin.

MORE INFO – for more info on taxis, accommodation, eating and drinking visit www.discoverboynevalley.ie and Discover Kells on Facebook

VFNUFS

Our 4 main venues, with [Eircodes] are:

The Jane Barrett Stage - The Church of Ireland [A82 AY20] $\,$

Meath County Council Stage - The Courthouse [A82 RY62]

The Eirgrid Stage - Kells Theatre [A82 PX65]

O'Brien's SuperValu Stage - Eureka House [A82 DX47] The Maria Edgeworth event is at Rockfield House, 3km outside Kells [A82 V9D5]

Lit Crawl Venues, with [Eircodes] are: The Courthouse [A82 RY62] Kells Library, Maudlin Street [A82 YN52] O'Rorke's Bar, Castle Street [A82 E0X9]

Please see the map on the back cover for the location of venues.

COMPANY DETAILS

Kells Literary & Cultural Festival Company Ltd, c/o The BOOK MARKet Café, Market Street, Kells, Co. Meath, Ireland. Registered in Dublin, Ireland. Company registration number 525038.

THURSDAY 22 JUNE

HINDSIGHT @ HINTERLAND - Fare thee well Decade of Centenaries Supported by Meath County Libraries

Events which are part of our Hindsight@Hinterland series have blue dots.

A Day Pass for the HINDSIGHT @ HINTERLAND events is available: #H1 – Thursday Events #1, #2, #3, #4 & #5 €40

[1] 11.00 COURTHOUSE €10

CIARÁN WALLACE –

Rescuing the Written Record: the virtual reconstruction of the Public Record Office of Ireland

On 30 June 1922, in the opening engagement of the Civil War, a catastrophic explosion destroyed seven centuries of historical records in the Public Record Office of Ireland. In June 2022, a century after the fire, the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland was launched to digitally recreate the lost building and its collections. This exciting research is funded by the Department of Culture under the Decade of Centenaries programme 2012-2023.

[2] **12.30** COURTHOUSE €10

RONAN McGREEVY –

Great Hatred: The Assassination of Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson MP

The event that precipitated the Irish Civil War did not even take place in Ireland. It was the assassination by two London IRA men of the controversial Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson MP that galvanised the British government into forcing the Provisional Government of the nascent Irish Free State into the attack on the Republican garrison in the Four Courts in Dublin, the event that began the 'shooting war' in 1922. Irish Times journalist and historian Ronan McGreevy has researched the circumstances that led to the murder of Wilson in his book Great Hatred: The Assassination of Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson MP.

[3] **14.00 COURTHOUSE €10 ●** SIOBHRA AIKEN –

The 'Spiritual Wounds' of the Irish Civil War

After the end of the Irish Civil War in 1923 the received wisdom is that the participants chose to draw a veil of silence over the conflict. Queen's University academic Siobhra Aiken's book Spiritual Wounds: Trauma, Testimony and the Irish Civil War challenges the widespread belief that the Irish Civil War (1922–23) was followed by a 'traumatic silence' by uncovering an archive of previously overlooked testimonies by pro- and anti-treaty men and women.

[4] 15.30 COURTHOUSE €10 CATRIONA CROWE – The Decade of Centenaries: A Retrospect

No public historian has made more impact on the commemorative decade than former National Archives curator Catriona Crowe, shepherd of the digitisation of the 1901 and 1911 censuses, without which the decade would have had far less meaning. In this talk she looks back at how we managed to commemorate (and occasionally came close to sabotaging) the centenary of the revolutionary decade. There will be plaudits ... and a few brickbats.

[5] 17.00 COURTHOUSE €10

LEANNE McCORMICK & ELAINE FARRELL – The Bad Bridget: Crime, Mayhem and the Lives of Irish Emigrant Women

Ireland in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was not a good place to be a woman. Among the wave of emigrants from Ireland to North America were many young women. Some lived lives of quiet industry and piety. Others quickly found themselves in trouble. Elaine Farrell and Leanne McCormick, creators of the celebrated Bad Bridget podcast, have unearthed a world in which Irish women in America actually outnumbered Irish men in prison, in which you could get locked up for 'stubbornness', and in which a serial killer called Lizzie Halliday was described by the New York Times as 'the worst woman on earth'. From sex workers and thieves to kidnappers and killers, these 'Bad Bridgets' are young women who went from the frying pan of their impoverished homeland to the fire of vast North American cities.

[6] 19.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND FREE EVENT TYPETRAIL LAUNCH

We are delighted to celebrate the launch of this year's TypeTrail. Come join us as we once again turn the streets of Kells into a canvas of Type. Kells TypeTrail brings together a wide range of artforms highlighting our unique heritage of lettering as a form of communication. Each year one word is translated into a variety of languages reflecting the diversity of the community in Kells with the aim of providing a means to bring individuals and groups together. As it is what the Arts, Culture and Heritage does, this year's word is 'Connect'.

Supported by O'Connell Family Practice

[7] 20.00 COURTHOUSE €10

FILM - Pray for our Sinners

Pray for Our Sinners documents Sinéad O'Shea's return to her hometown, Navan, to explore the impact of the Catholic Church on the community in decades past. Through first hand testimonies, the film reveals the plight of unmarried mothers; the horrors of mother and baby homes and the prevalence of violence against children in Catholic schools. A handful of extraordinary figures chose to resist the pervasive power of the church: a woman who refused to give her baby up for adoption, a 9-year-old boy who dared to speak out against his teachers' physical abuse; and doctors Mary & Paddy Randles who established a family planning service and campaigned for the abolition of corporal punishment. Run time 81mins.



FRIDAY23 JUNE

A Day Pass for the HINDSIGHT @ HINTERLAND events is available: #H2 - Friday Events #8, #9, #10, #11 & #12 €40

[8] 11 COURTHOUSE €10

LIAM McNIFFE -



1916: One Rising, many views

Every generation has used the Rising for its own purposes. Liam McNiffe outlines the facts of 1916, and how initial condemnation was followed by indignation. This gave way to an unrestrained triumphalism that ignored awkward realities, like women and socialists. The 1970s saw a new 'Revisionism', but again awkward facts ignored. What view are we getting today?

[9] 12.30 COURTHOUSE €10 ULTAN COURTNEY – Who killed Thomas Hodgett?

In 1921, at the height of the War of Independence the Navan, Co. Meath postmaster, Thomas Hodgett was taken from his home and brutally murdered. To this day his killers have not been identified and it is by no means certain which side in the Anglo-Irish war was responsible for his death. Ultan Courtney will examine the new evidence that has emerged that may help identify the killers of the popular postmaster. The talk is based on his new book Sons of Fire: The Murder of Thomas Hodgett in 1921.

[10] **14.00 COURTHOUSE €10 ○** CÉCILE CHEMIN –

The Military Service Pensions Archive: a Unique Historical and Personal Legacy

As the Decade of Commemorations comes to a close, Cécile Chemin, Senior Archivist at the Military Archives of Ireland and Director of the Military Service (1916-1923) Pensions Collection Project, assesses the legacy of the MSP Archive as a personal, collective and national inheritance. Over the past years, this archive has enriched historical research, supported local commemorative events and enabled countless families to know more about their relatives. Today, the Project continues to uncover unheard voices, excavate meanings, in order to offer new perspectives to understand how the conflict impacted a whole generation and countless families across the island, eventually shaping the rest of their lives.

[11] 15.30 COURTHOUSE €10 ■

PAUL ROUSE -

Sport in Modern Irish Life

'Sport wraps itself around the emotions like bindweed. The meaning of sport lies in how it makes a person feel; sport which leaves you feeling nothing has no relevance.' So begins Sport in Modern Irish Life where leading sports historian, journalist and practitioner, Paul Rouse, grapples with the concept of every individual's relationship with sport being unique to him or herself but also intimately connected to the universal.

[12] 17.00 COURTHOUSE €10

LIZ GILLIS -

The Red Cow Murders and the Civil War in South Dublin

On October 7 1922, three young men,

Eamon Hughes, Brendan Holohan and Joe Rogers were arrested in Drumcondra by the National Army, as they were found to be putting up anti-Treaty propaganda posters in the area. The following morning their lifeless bodies were found at the Red Cow, Clondalkin. South Dublin County Decade of Centenaries Historian in Residence, Liz Gillis will discuss one of the most shocking episodes in the Irish Civil War.

[13] 19.30 COURTHOUSE €12 JOHN MACKENNA AND KATIE JACCQUES — The Music of Leonard Cohen

A chance to listen to some of the work of one of the great singer-songwriters, the gravel voiced Leonard Cohen. The music of the Canadian maestro, writer of 'Suzanne', 'That's no way to say goodbye' and 'Hallelujah' will be interpreted by the young Irish singer-songwriter Katie Jacques and introduced by his good friend and collaborator John MacKenna.

Sponsored by Sheridan Insurances

[14] **19.30 ROCKFIELD HOUSE** ADULT **€10 /** CHILDREN **€5**

Enjoy insights into the life and literature of novelist Maria Edgeworth who regularly visited her relatives at Rockfield House. Between 1800 and 1810, Edgeworth was one of the most widely read novelists in the British Isles and greatly influenced the work of Jane Austen. Period dress welcome. Music by harpists Grace & Orla Cunningham and friends.

Younger attendees can partake in a ramble through the courtyards and walled garden at Rockfield House enjoying excerpts from Maria Edgeworth's children's literature with engaging insights into life for children 200 years ago.

SATURDAY 24 JUNE

Children's events noted with ____ yellow dots.

All children must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

[15] 11.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10 JOHN MACKENNA – Leonard Cohen, an Absent Friend

Absent Friend is a meditation on a more than thirty-year friendship between the Irish writer John MacKenna and the Canadian writer, singer and novelist Leonard Cohen. Leonard and MacKenna worked together on creating the requiem Between Your Love and Mine in the months before Leonard's death. The requiem toured in 2017 and 2019 and played theatres nationally including the NCH and Aras an Uachtarain. Absent Friend has been described by Robert Kory - Leonard Cohen's manager – as being: '...of great importance to anyone wishing to understand the unique artistry of Leonard Cohen. Few journalists or writers enjoyed Leonard's respect and trust as much as did John MacKenna. That trust is on full display in this book....Leonard would be pleased...'. John will be in conversation with Myles Dungan. Sponsored by Keaveny Walsh & Co. Solicitors

[16] 11.00 COURTHOUSE €10 ZAK MORADI AND MATTHEW SPANGLER – Adapting Life Begins in Leitrim for stage

Matt Spangler, our perennial 'Writer in Motion' (so-called because he can't be pinned down) takes on another adaptation session. So far this session has produced two completed plays. This year Matt will be joined onstage by author and hurler Zak Moradi who will sit quietly seething while Matt tells him what part of his life would need to be jettisoned to create a two-hour script for stage.

Sponsored by Pauls Menwear

[17] 11.00 KELLS THEATRE €10 GERRY MURPHY — Climate change and Ireland

With Ireland's drive towards zero carbon apparently stalled, despite the presence of the

Green party in the coalition government, and the most recent IPCC report pointing towards ecological disaster unless governments take immediate remedial action, it is timely to hear the views of one of Ireland's best known and most popular meteorological experts, Met Éireann and RTÉ forecaster, Gerry Murphy.

Sponsored by Cooper Insulation

[18] **11.00 EUREKA HOUSE €5 .** KATIE O'DONOGHUE –

KATIE O DONOGHUE — The Little Otter Who Tried (4-8 years)

Katie O'Donoghue's new book for young readers, The Little Otter Who Tried follows her previous title, The Little Squirrel Who Worried. It's a storybook which aims to support young children in learning to be resilient and develop an appreciation for nature and the habitats of animals native to Ireland. It also has a beautiful, nostalgic design featuring hand-painted illustrations by the author. Katie will host a draw/paint-along event for younger children.

Sponsored by St. Colmcille's Kells Credit Union

[19] **12.30 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10** T.J. MCINTYRE AND SENATOR MALCOLM BYRNE *-*

Social Media and the right to protection and privacy

Just how much further are social media giants like Facebook and Twitter prepared to go in pushing out the boundaries of privacy and acceptable comment on the internet? As a member of the Oireachtas Media Committee, Senator Malcolm Byrne played a significant role in shaping the Online Safety and Media Regulation Act, 2022, and has written and spoken extensively on the impact of technology on society and the role of legislators in preparing for technological change. T.J. McIntyre, associate professor of law at University College, Dublin a legal expert in information technology, cybercrime and digital rights, was critical of aspects of the committee's proposed legislation. A lively discussion on the clash of individual rights versus safety is guaranteed. The debate will be chaired by Myles Dungan.

Sponsored by Nathaniel Lacy & Partners

[20] **12.30 COURTHOUSE €10** ALICE RYAN –

There's Been a Little Incident

There's Been a Little Incident is a witty and warm debut novel about family, grief, and the ways we come together when all seems lost. Molly Black has disappeared. She's been flighty since her parents died, but this time it looks like she's gone for good. That's why the whole Black clan-from Granny perched on the printer to Killian on Zoom from Sydney-is huddled together in the Dublin suburbs, arguing over what to do. Alice Ryan's first novel won the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year at the 2022 Irish Book Awards. Alice will be in conversation with Gerry Foley.

Sponsored by The Bective Restaurant

[21] 12.30 KELLS THEATRE €10 ZAK MORADI – Life Begins in Leitrim – from Kurdistan to Croke Park

Zak Moradi is a Kurdish, Irish hurler who plays as a left corner-forward for the Leitrim

senior team. His family relocated to Carrick on Shannon in 2002 and Zak became smitten with the sliothar and the camán. In 2019 he played on the winning Leitrim team in the Lory Meagher Trophy in Croke Park. His book Life Begins in Leitrim, written with Niall Kelly, was nominated for an Irish Book Award in 2022. Zak will be in conversation with Rus Bradburd.

Sponsored by DNG Royal County

[22] **12.30 EUREKA HOUSE €5** — ELLEN RYAN —

Girls Who Slay Monsters (Ages 8+)

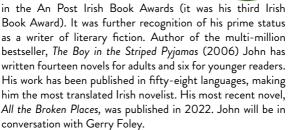
Girls Who Slay Monsters brings the female heroes of Irish mythology vividly to life From Eire, Ireland's fierce namesake, and Bé Binn, a giant who overcame her bullies, to Badb, a gleefully gruesome death prophet, and Bé Mannair, a spy who challenged an entire army. These are goddesses of many shapes, skin shades and sizes, from every corner of ancient Ireland, whose daring still inspires today. Join Ellen in her workshop and perhaps you too can become a latter-day monster-slayer. Girls Who Slay Monsters was the Children's (Senior) Book of the year at the 2022 Irish Book Awards.

Sponsored by Lynch's Totalhealth Pharmacy

[23] 14.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10 JOHN BOYNE –

the author in conversation

The most recent of John Boyne's many literary awards came in 2022 when he was named as Ireland's Author of the Year



Sponsored by Clonabreany House

[24] **14.00 COURTHOUSE €10**

COLIN BATEMAN -

Thunder and Lightning: A memoir of life on the tough cul de sacs of Bangor

So close to the Troubles, yet so far away – Thunder and Lightning is the story of one boy's journey through the rather soft side of life in a town which lacked tough streets but boasted many cul-de-sacs. Wildly popular novelist Colin Bateman (Divorcing Jack) brings his inimitable humour to his own life and serves up a wonderfully witty and self-deprecating memoir of the Northern Ireland troubles ... as seen from a wee bit of a distance. Colin will be in conversation with Myles Dungan.

Sponsored by Weldon Opticians

[25] **14.00 KELLS THEATRE €10** TOM DUNNE –

Aladdin Sane @ 50

David Bowie's 1973 album, Aladdin Sane is possibly as well known for its iconic cover photo

as for its musical content. But the 10 tracks are as good as any Bowie ever wrote and include the laid-back title track and the two great up-tempo numbers 'Cracked Actor' and 'The Jean Genie'. Find out more in the latest of rocker (Something Happens) and broadcaster (Newstalk FM) Tom Dunne's annual classic album series for Hinterland.

Sponsored by Executive Company Seals

[26] 14.00 EUREKA HOUSE €10 ANNE GRIFFIN – The Island of Longing

One remarkable afternoon, Rosie Driscoll watched her daughter Saoirse cycle into town, expecting to hear the slam of the door when she returned a few hours later. But the slam never came. Eight years on, after an extensive investigation into her disappearance, Rosie is the only person who stubbornly believes that her child might still be alive. When Rose receives a call from her father, asking her to return home for the summer, she is forced out of her limbo. Life on the island of Roaring Bay revives old rivalries, but it also brings new friendships and unexpected solace. Yet, when a sudden glimmer of hope appears, Rosie is forced to face an impossible question: is she right to think that Saoirse is still alive? Anne Griffin is the author of the bestselling novels When All Is Said and Listening Still. The Island of Longing is her third novel. Anne will be in conversation with Deirdre Hurley.

Sponsored by AIB Bank, Kells

[27] 14.00 EUREKA HOUSE FREE EVENT FAMOUS FIVE TREASURE HUNT

For adults and children alike, search for clues through the town based on the magic of the Famous Five. Bring back tales of school holidays, scrumptious picnics, smugglers and friendship all to be found in the shop windows of Kells. [You can follow the Treasure Hunt all over the festival weekend sheets of clues can be obtained from the Ticket Office.]

[28] 15.30 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10 LIZ NUGENT AND JANE CASEY -Queens of Crime in Conversation With the publication (on the same day) of their latest best-selling novels Strange Sally Diamond (Liz) and The Close (Jane) these two writers—no strangers to Hinterland-have cemented their dominance of crime writing in Ireland and have further enhanced the country's reputation for producing peerless thrillers. They are both huge admirers

of each other's work, which should make for a lively chat. Liz and Jane will be in conversation with Deirdre Hurley.

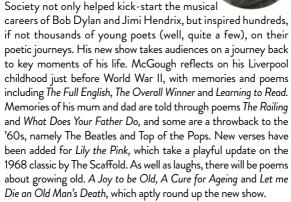
Sponsored by Sarah Thompson & Associates Accountants

[29] 15.30 COURTHOUSE €10 ADRIAN DUNCAN -Little Republics, Jack Fitzsimons and Bungalow Bliss

Adrian Duncan's first non-fiction book, Little Republics: The Story of Bungalow Bliss, looks at the history of Irish bungalows, which became popular across Ireland (from the early 1970s to the late 90s) thanks to Kells's Jack Fitzsimons and his best-selling book of house designs, Bungalow Bliss. His book contained a selection of designs that could be used to build an affordable home. The designs were ordered from Fitzsimons either over the phone or by post, then put through the planning process and built. Anne Cunningham in the Meath Chronicle has written that Little Republics is 'a memoir of Duncan's childhood' while also an analysis of developments in rural Ireland of the late 20th century. Adrian will be in conversation with local conservation architect, Robert Miles. Sponsored by Kenny Timmons Developments Ltd.

[30] 15.30 KELLS THEATRE €12 ROGER McGOUGH – Alive and Gigging

Roger McGough, the 'Living proof of himself,' and President of the Poetry



Sponsored by Headfort Arms Hotel

[31] **15.30 EUREKA HOUSE €5 ○** SHANE HEGARTY *-*

The Shop of Impossible Ice Creams (Ages 8+)

From spaghetti ice cream to ninja fairies, Shane Hegarty's new book - The Shop of Impossible Ice Creams - is packed with delicious jokes, twists and turns. Join the author of bestsellers Darkmouth and Boot as he shows you where he found inspiration for his sometimes yucky but always magical impossible ice cream stories - and helps you come up with your own impossibly good ideas.

Sponsored by Woods and Partners Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

32] **17.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND €12**

BILL WHELAN - the road to Riverdance

Bill Whelan has composed music for theatre, film and orchestra. His best known work *Riverdance*, was composed especially for the interval act of the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest. As a single release, *Riverdance* spent 18 weeks at no.1 in the Irish charts and was a top ten hit in the UK. Since then *Riverdance the Show* has gone on to play to 22 million people world wide. In his memoir, *The Road to Riverdance* he reveals the nuts, bolts, sheer effort and serendipities that formed the unconscious preparation of his reinvention of the Irish tradition for a modern age. *Hot Press* wrote of the book: 'Paints an unforgettable picture of how one man navigated the rapids of music in Ireland – and came up trumps in the long run ... an essential read for anyone who loves Irish music.'

[33] 17.00 COURTHOUSE €10 NESRIN ALREFAAI AND MATTHEW SPANGLER -

Staging the Beekeeper

During her 2019 visit to Hinterland Christy Lefteri joined our 'Writer in Motion' Matt Spangler as he outlined how he would approach adapting her novel *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* for the stage. In case you hadn't noticed Matt then went on and did just that, in collaboration with Nesrin Alrefaai. The play is currently touring theatres in Britain and Ireland. Matt and Nesrin will be talking about the collaboration that began in Kells. They will be in conversation with playwright and scriptwriter Ross Dungan.

[34] 17.00 KELLS THEATRE €10 TOMMIE GORMAN -Never Better: My Life in Our Times

For more years than he probably cares to remember, journalist and broadcaster

Tommie Gorman was RTÉ News Northern Editor, covering Northern Ireland news from 2001 and interviewing all the main players in Northern Ireland political life. Prior to that trickiest of assignments Tommie, from 1989, was the station's European correspondent. After his retirement in 2021 Tommie wrote his autobiography *Never Better: My Life in Our Times*. None of the above, however, compares with his slavish devotion to the fortunes of Sligo Rovers Football Club and, despite all his awardwinning work in Brussels and Belfast he is probably still best remembered for his interview with Roy Keane after the Saipan fiasco at the World Cup in 2002. Tommy will be in conversation with former Irish Ambassador to the UK, Aidan O'Neill.

Sponsored by Lydon Farrell Property

[35] **17.00 EUREKA HOUSE €10**

SAM BLAKE - the crime novelist in conversation
Sam Blake (the pen name of the writer Vanessa Fox
O'Loughlin), author of eight bestselling books in total, has
been shortlisted for the Irish Crime Novel of the year three
times (2016, 2021 and 2022). Her debut novel, Little Bones
(2016) was her first runaway success. Her latest adult work, The
Mystery of Four had the distinction of being knocked off the
top of the bestseller lists by the juggernaut Spare, written by a
fellow English exile (Sam lives in Wicklow but is originally from
Hertfordshire). With Something Terrible Happened Last Night
Sam has written her first (of many?) books for a young adult
audience. Sam will be in conversation with Deirdre Hurley.

Sponsored by Wellman International Ltd.

[36] 18.30 COURTHOUSE €5 WELCOMING THE STRANGER a panel discussion Chaired by Dr. Mary Coffey, Kells Community Sponsorship Lead

- Mary Coffey & New Beginnings Kells: The Why and the How of Welcoming those seeking Refuge;
- Andrea Martin: Friends of Ascend Ireland, Daring to be Led by Love;
- Karima Karimi: Ascend Athletics (Afghanistan).
 Empowered through Mountaineering;
- Shafaq Rahimi: Afghan Diaspora establishing online education for those left behind;
- Bryan McMahon: The Master of the Welcoming Word.

[37] **20.30 CHURCH OF IRELAND €20** LISA LAMBE -

NightVisiting *Songs & stories from the hearth*Based on her work with the National Folklore

and her recent M.A in Irish Collection internationally acclaimed Irish folk singer and actor Lisa Lambe brings us her new project NightVisiting, collaborating renowned traditional musicians alongside contributors to create a unique performance bespoke to Hinterland. NightVisiting reconnects us to the social role that night-time social house visits once played in our oral traditions and folklore, and in the preservation of our songs and stories from tender love songs to the bawdy, to songs of loss and longing. NightVisiting is a celebration and a reimagining of those nights of sharing the old songs and stories, not to be missed!

In partnership with Meath Arts Office



SUNDAY 25 JUNE

Children's events noted with yellow dots.

All children must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

[38] 11.00 COURTHOUSE €10 TONY BUCHER – Once Upon a Time in Hollywood: Murderous Cults in 1970s California

California was a place of dreams in the national psyche of mid-Century America. By the late 1960s, however, those dreams were disturbed by lurid stories of the murderous cults that came to plague the state. The Manson Family, the Jonestown massacre, the Symbionese Liberation Army shocked the nation and drove a dystopian narrative of 1970s California. Tony Bucher, a native of the Bay Area, has made a close study of the darker aspects of California's history.

[39] **11.00 KELLS THEATRE €10**RANDAL PLUNKETT — *the rewilding of Dunsany Estate*Naturalist and film-maker Randal

Plunkett, 21st Baron of Dunsany, took an

unorthodox gamble when he decided to 'rewild' his family's Co Meath demesne. In the face of aggression, vandalism and threats, he's built a thriving 750-acre nature reserve. First successes of the project include the return of the corncrake, several species of birds of prey, including the Red-listed red kite, the rare Great Spotted Woodpecker and other birds, as well as multiple other animal species, including pine marten, stoat and the Red-listed otter.

Sponsored by Allied Recycling

Illustrating History Workshop- (Ages 8+)

Unleash your inner creativity in our interactive Illustrating History Workshop with illustrator Alan Dunne! Learn about historical characters and how illustrations can bring them to life. Create your own historical illustrations and engage with history in a fun, creative, and interactive way. Gain a deeper appreciation for how historical details and understanding can be turned into illustration! Don't miss this exciting journey through history and illustration!

Sponsored by Woods and Partners Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

[41] 12.30 COURTHOUSE €10

NERYS WILLIAMS - A Welsh Republic?

Wales is one of our nearest neighbours, but how much do we know about it? In her new 'anti-memoir', Republic, the Kells-based 'west-Wales Baudelaire in Dr. Martens', Nerys Williams, has, in her own words produced, 'a cross genrevolume examining 1980s and 90s alternative music, political protest and bilingualism in Wales.' It even comes with its own Spotify list! English and Welsh-language post-punk bands, politics, feminism and family life are thrown together on the page as she questions what constitutes a republic?

Sponsored by REAT & J Gavigan

[42] 12.30 KELLS THEATRE €10 JOHN CREEDON – An Irish Folklore Treasury

In the 1930s, the schoolchildren of

Ireland were asked to interview their oldest relatives and/or neighbours and to gather stories, superstitions, myths and traditions from times past so that the lives of ordinary people could be recorded. The result was an incredible resource, (now available online on duchas.ie) the National Folklore Archive's Schools' Collection. John Creedon's delightful An Irish Folklore Treasury contains a selection of the best stories. An Irish Folklore Treasury, which topped the Non - Fiction bestsellers list, was honoured as the Best Irish Published Book of the Year at the 2022 Irish Book Awards.

Sponsored by Murray Ward Accountants

[43] **12.30** EUREKA HOUSE €5 —

BEATRICE WALBANK - The Sleeping Stones (ages 8+)

Spark ideas for your next story by thinking about what kind of place it happens in! Will this interactive workshop lead you down a spooky overgrown path or along a wild, stormy beach? You decide! Sponsored by Kells Expert Hardware

[44] **14.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10**

FINTAN O'TOOLE - Liam Cahill, a tribute

For many years journalist Liam Cahill was a familiar sight on Irish TV screens as the well informed Industrial and Political Correspondent of RTÉ News and Current Affairs. He was also a dedicated trade unionist and a talented historian, author of Forgotten Revolution: The Limerick Soviet, 1919 (1990 and 2019) and From Suir to Jarama, Mossie Quinlan's Life and Legacy (2021). Born in Waterford but a resident of Meath, where he was an active Labour Party member, Liam's death last year was both a shock and a major loss. Fintan O'Toole, will offer this tribute to a 'life less ordinary' by reflecting on the challenges facing the media in current times.

Sponsored by Meath Trades Council

[45] **14.00 COURTHOUSE €10**

RUS BRADBURD -

Sport, politics and race in America

Writer, sportsman and musician Rus Bradburd has coached American college basketball, written a memoir of his time as coach of the Tralee Tigers in the Irish National League, addressed issues of race and gun crime in his native Chicago, played fiddle at countless sessions in places as far apart as New Mexico, Belfast, and Kerry, and is now unearthing extraordinary stories about the involvement of immigrant children being embraced by the Gaelic Athletic Association in Belfast. Rus will be in conversation with Myles Dungan.

Sponsored by Gormley Pharmacy

[46] **14.00 KELLS THEATRE €10** EDEL COFFEY – *Breaking Point*

Susannah has two beautiful daughters, a high-flying medical career, a successful husband and an enviable life. She truly has it all. But – on the hottest day of the year – Susannah finds herself running on autopilot. It is hours before she realises she has made a devastating mistake. Her baby, Louise, is still in the backseat of the car and it is too late to save her. As the press close in around her, Susannah is put on trial for negligence. Selected as Crime Fiction Book of the Year at the 2022 Irish Book Awards. Edel will be in conversation with Deirdre Hurley.

[47] 14.00 EUREKA HOUSE €5 MARITA CONLON McKENNA – 'From Hawthorns to Fairy Rings'

The Inspiration and Ideas and Magic of Making Stories and Writing Books!

[48] 15.30 CHURCH OF IRELAND €10 EILEEN DUNNE – A life in News

Obviously Eileen Dunne has not spent her *entire* life in the business of news gathering and delivery, it probably just feels like that. She might well have gone in

the same direction as her much revered father, Mick Dunne, who for years was RTÉ's GAA correspondent. Instead, in the early 1980s, after a brief stint in Radio Continuity, she began working as a newsreader. From then, until her retirement almost 40 years later, she has seen that role change hugely. Join us to celebrate the career of one of Ireland's most familiar and best-loved broadcasters. Eileen will be in conversation with Myles Dungan.

Sponsored by Park Rí

[49] **15.30 COURTHOUSE €10**

CRISTÍN LEACH - Negative Space

It's not often that a book by an Irish art critic enters the bestseller lists. However, as thousands of enthusiastic readers have discovered, Negative Space is so much more than just a book of art criticism. While it does include many valuable insights into the world of art it is also a memoir of personal trauma, a book about writing, about infidelity, and a guide to understanding the world around us. It is gloriously difficult to pigeon hole, as is its thoroughly accomplished and inspired writer.

Sponsored by Tommy Dowd Oil

[50] **15.30 KELLS THEATRE €12** RICHARD FORD – the Pulitzer prize-winning author in conversation

Acknowledged today as one of the finest

writers in the English language Richard Ford has won a number of notable awards over an almost fifty-year career in literary fiction. Best known for the four works featuring his fictional creation, Frank Bascombe—starting with *The Sportswriter* in 1986—he has also produced a peerless collection of short stories, *Rock Springs*, and in 1996 won the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for *Independence Day*. Richard Ford will be in conversation with Gerry Foley.

Sponsored by Dunnes The Premier House - celebrating 110 years

[51] **15.30** EUREKA HOUSE €5 —

ELENA BROWNE — You Can Do It, Rosie! (Age 4-6)
Join Elena Browne, author of You Can Do It, Rosie!, to learn
some fun facts about dogs followed by an interactive reading
of Rosie's fun, adventure story. Then, join us in creating Rosie's
next imaginary adventure! Using everyday items, let's use our
minds to see beyond the ordinary and use our imaginations to

help Rosie finish her next walk! Sponsored by Flower Innovations

[52] **17.00 CHURCH OF IRELAND €12** JOSEPH O'CONNOR –

The 'Vatican Pimpernel' and My Father's House

One of the most courageous men of World War 2 was, for many years, also one of the conflict's best kept secrets. Only in recent years have the efforts of the Irish priest, Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty and his 'underground railroad' for escaped POWs, resistance fighters and Jewish refugees, become widely known. While Joseph O'Connor's take on the activities of Hugh O'Flaherty are fictionalised, My Father's House keeps faith with the audacity and resolution of the Vatican-based cleric who frequently put his life on the line after the Nazi takeover of Italy in 1944. The Guardian wrote of My Father's House that it is 'beautifully crafted, his razor-sharp dialogue is to be savoured, and he employs dark humour to great effect.' Joseph O'Connor will be in conversation with Myles Dungan.

Sponsored by UWalk.ie

[53] **17.00 COURTHOUSE €10**

LIADÁN HYNES –

Courting: Tractor Dates, Macra Babies and Swiping Right in Rural Ireland

With the arrival of the internet the search for love has been transformed in recent years. Dating has never been more convenient, varied or disposable and we Irish have taken to it with gusto. But what about dating in rural Ireland? Courting: Tractor Dates, Macra Babies and Swiping Right in Rural Ireland tells a variety of honest and touching stories of trying to meet The One in a rural setting, where the ingredients for successful dating aren't always guaranteed. Liadán Hynes travels from family farms to tiny islands, village pubs to remote communities, to sit down with childhood sweethearts, long-lost loves and singles, ever hopefuls and lonely hearts, as they navigate this quest through tractor dates, Macra, dating apps and more. Liadán Hynes will be in conversation with Deirdre Hurley.

Sponsored by Hogan's Farm Shop & Café

[54] 17.00 KELLS THEATRE €10

PHILIP QUINLAN - And a Bang on the Ear

Philip Quinlan was a promising 15-year-old athlete who packed his bags one Sunday morning in November 1989 to play a game of football. A day later, his mother was told he had a 25% chance to live. Full of hope and humour, rage and rehabilitation, this is an autobiography unlike any other. Co-written with Steve O'Rourke, with a foreword by Paul Howard, And a Bang on the Ear sees Philip painstakingly piece together the events that led up to, and followed, the accidental clash of heads that left him in a coma before waking up to 30 years of pain and paralysis. Phil Quinlan will be in conversation with his old schoolfriend and team mate on the day, Liam Carey.

Sponsored by Hearing Care Clinics

[55] **17.00 EUREKA HOUSE €10** SANTIS O'GARRO –

The Money Mentor: How to eliminate debt and save your way to financial freedom

In December 2018, Santis O'Garro found herself in a dire situation: a newly single mother in €15k of debt, with bills mounting and no one to turn to for help. Her only option was to face her bad financial habits so she could get out of debt. A year later, she had not only eradicated her debt, but was also financially secure enough to quit her job and pursue a new career. Here, she shows you how to change your money mindset so you can live a debt-free life, too. Take the stress out of saving and spending and let Santis, 'The Money Mentor' show you the way to financial freedom.

Sponsored by St. Colmcille's Kells Credit Union

LIT CRAWL 2023



SUNDAY 25 JUNE

Supported By Creative Ireland

Clár Éire Ildánach Creative Ireland Programme 2017–2022



FREE - ALL WELCOME

Lit Crawl was first organised as part of the huge Litquake Literary Festival in San Francisco in 2004. Since then it has spread to a number of other cities in the USA and Europe, including New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, Helsinki and London. Over the past few years, Lit Crawl has firmly established itself as a most special way of closing our Hinterland weekend.

EVENTS

#L1 18.30 COURTHOUSE

MYLES DUNGAN:

An idiot's guide to democracy — from feudalism to Trump (all the way back to Feudalism)

With tongue firmly embedded in cheek the RTÉ Radio 1 History Show presenter, Myles Dungan traces the growth of a delicate flower named 'Democracy' and the rise of the nutjobs who want to dig it up and throw it on the compost.

#L2 18.30 KELLS LIBRARY CHRISTOPHER McCORMACK

This talk celebrates the work of the Revd Edward Adderley Stopford, Rector of Kells and his nephew, William Graham Brooke, in promoting the admission of women to university as part of the Church of Ireland process of Disestablishment (1869 - 71) of which all on the island of Ireland were the beneficiaries.

#L3 19.30 COURTHOUSE

FRANK COGAN

'Falling in and faling out' - the Civil War & its aftermath in Meath

In Meath, while the majority of IRA volunteers supported the Treaty and the Provisional government, there were clear signs of tension from early 1922 between the adherents of the two sides. The main anti- Treaty elements were concentrated

around Navan and the northern and western extremes of the county. Small breakaway groups defied the authority of their Brigade commander Sean Boylan and staged raids on Provisional Govt / Free State patrols. Their effort fizzled out in the early weeks of 1923.

#L4 19.30 KELLS LIBRARY DONNCHA MACGABBAN -The Book of Kells

A stroll through Kells' oldest book with ground-breaking scholar and author Dr Donncha MacGabhann - an interactive event using manuscript facsimiles and other visual material.

#L5 19.30 O'RORKE'S BAR DONAL COGHLAN

Donal is a singer-songwriter in the true sense of the word and his songs reflect the everyday life and changing issues that visit us all. Donal will be accompanied by Michael Curran.

#L6 20.30 COURTHOUSE

CHRIS MURPHY-

Kells: The product of 10,000 years of climate change, conflict, disease and migration

With an eye on current global issues and their localised impacts, local historian Chris Murphy takes a journey through the many major turning points in the development of Kells, and the surrounding hinterlands of the Blackwater Valley over the last ten millennia. In just the last few decades, more has been learned about Ireland's history than all we knew before; and, using the most up to date scientific evidence and surprisingly accurate ancient Irish texts, he examines who we really are, how we got here, and why we're still here.

#L7 20.30 KELLS LIBRARY

LIAM MCNIFFE

Bulldog, short story by Liam McNiffe that proves Oscar Wilde's adage, with age comes wisdom, but sometimes age comes alone. You will certainly laugh, most of the time at Liam's expense.

#L8 20.30 O'RORKE'S BAR RUS BRADBURY

Rus has had an extraordinarily varied career in sport and is an author of four books. For many years he was a basketball coach at university and professional level. He is also known as a fiddle player, for which he describes himself as being exceptionally average! We beg to differ. Join Rus and us for a session of ceol agus craic.

OTHER THINGS TO DO

BLOODY YESTERDAY - A NEW PLAY BY AWARD WINNING PLAYWRIGHT DEIRDRE KINAHAN

Commissioned by Glass Mask Theatre and written specifically for the magic of intimate theatres and unusual performance spaces. Inspired by a true story, Bloody Yesterday delicately depicts the broken relationship between a Mother and Daughter exploring loss, estrangement, identity, resilience and Motherhood. Haunted by a "nineties" soundtrack Bloody Yesterday also charts the extraordinary influence of music on memory and the unshakeable bond of family, of love, of blood. Directed by Rex Ryan, Featuring Elizabeth Moynhan and Sinead Keegan.

Venue: Kells Courthouse Tourism & Cultural Hub.

When: Thursday June 8th at 8pm.

Tickets from The BookMarket Café, Kells.

KELLS ARTS CLUB: CELEBRATING BLOOMSDAY.

Hinterland meets Joyce with Kells Arts Club. Bloomsday breakfast June 16th 11am Bookmarket Café, Market St, Kells. Booking @ BOOKMARKet Café or email: annduffy. kells@gmail.com

CLIMATE ACTION: ACTIVE HOPE - STORIES OF LOCAL ACTION & EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

hosted by Gardeners Dynamic! & Kilskyre Pride of Place Kilskyre Camogie & Hurling Club Hub on Saturday 17th June 10-4pm Funded by Irish Aid /Saolta. Free Event, but booking essential. Tickets - Eventbrite. Donations welcome "Community Classroom" c/o Kilskyre PoP.

MIDSUMMER CONCERT: THE CELTIC TENORS, SOPRANO DEIRDRE SHANNON AND SPECIAL GUESTS

An evening of beautiful music in the unique setting of St Colmcille's Church, Kells, Saturday 17th June 2023 at 8pm, in aid of Irish Cancer Society, and Palliative Care. Tickets €30 from local outlets and through EVENTBRITE

ANGLES – A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION OF WORK BY KIERAN SLYNE

Kieran is an award-winning documentary cameraman and photographer. In this collection Kieran looks at how we impose on nature both consciously and unconsciously. Launch Wednesday 21st June 6.30pm – 8pm. Exhibition runs until July 21st. Presented by Meath Arts Office & Hinterland Festival. Toradh2 Gallery, Kells Courthouse Tourism & Cultural Hub

KELLS TYPETRAIL

This unique event, now celebrating its 14th year, is an annual festival celebrating typography and lettering as a modern art form. As it is what the Arts, Culture and Heritage does, this year's word is *Connect*. The TypeTrail map is available to view online at: www.kellstypetrail.com or is available to pick up in many local shops and cafés.

EXHIBITION: THE ROAD HOME

This exhibition by Derick Smith will feature a cycle of 12 abstract paintings, back-dropped against the austere beauty of the Red Church, playing on ideas of the contemporary and traditional. Derick is a local artist whose works are exhibited internationally and is currently artist in residence in Kenlis Studios - Hosted by O'Connell Family Practice. Open 5pm 22nd June. Official launch Saturday 24th June 6.30pm. Artist talk Friday 30th June 7pm. Last day Saturday 1st July.

KELLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB EXHIBITION: CLICK

The Old Convent Chapel. Launch night: Wednesday 21st June 7.30pm. Exhibition runs over the festival weekend. Hosted by O'Connell Family Practice

ART EXHIBITION

A group of visual artists from the Kells area are delighted to present some of their latest artworks. In the BOOKMARKet café, from Saturday 17th June.

THE VANILLA POD - TASTE OF THE MOVIES

A night of nostalgia, fun and flavours as we taste our way through some of our favourite culinary big screen movies down through the years... Eat pray love while tasting Fried green tomatoes, maybe a recipe from Julie & Julia, but we won't mention Hell's Kitchen!

Includes a Welcome Cocktail (from the movie of course!), 5 Course Tasting menu and plenty of laughs....it's Hinterland Festival after all!

Friday June 23rd €50.00 per person. Pre-booking essential, call 046 - 9240084

THE LLOYD RESTAURANT

Open Every Weekend, Friday night is "LIVE Music night in The Lloyd Restaurant Kells, located on the 1st floor of the Park Rí Building.

For more information and booking visit www.TheLloydKells.ie



JACK'S GASTRO BAR & GARDEN

Every Thursday night - Trad Session from 9pm Friday 23rd - Studio 109 presents Open Mic Night in the Garden - Various Local Artists presented by Radio & Podcast Host Adrian Kennedy.

Saturday 24th June - Karl Lesley Live 9.30pm. Sunday June 25th - In Between Honey live in the Garden 7 to 9pm

KELLS WALK ABOUT TOURS

Get a unique insight into the historic town of Kells, from the early medieval monastic site to the Georgian quarter, volunteer guides will take you on a walking tour and will share with you the local stories and hidden gems of their town. Times allocated are 11am & 2pm, however it is necessary to book in advance through the Kells Courthouse Tourism & Cultural Hub on the Headfort Road. Phone Libby on 046-924 7508.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BECTIVE STREET

Open 1-5pm on the Saturday 24th June and 2-5pm on Sunday 25th June. Service at 10.30am on Sunday and visitors are very welcome to drop in and sample a typical Presbyterian Church Service.

THE MARKET CLONMELLON

Food & Craft Market with great local produce the historic Old Market Square. 11am to 1.30pm Sunday 18th June, and every 2nd Sunday in the Old Market Square, Clonmellon. C15 DK6E

SHERIDANS CHEESEMONGERS

Every Saturday host a small market for local food producers; including their butcher, local fruit and veg grower and many more. The Old Forge Restaurant next to Virginia Road Station, Pottlereagh, Kells, Co Meath. A82 PC42.

GIRLEY BOG

This looped walk covers a combination of forest and bogland – and has been developed as an eco-walk, with a wonderful variety of birdlife, plants and animals. A site map can be downloaded on: www.coillte.ie/site/girley-bog/









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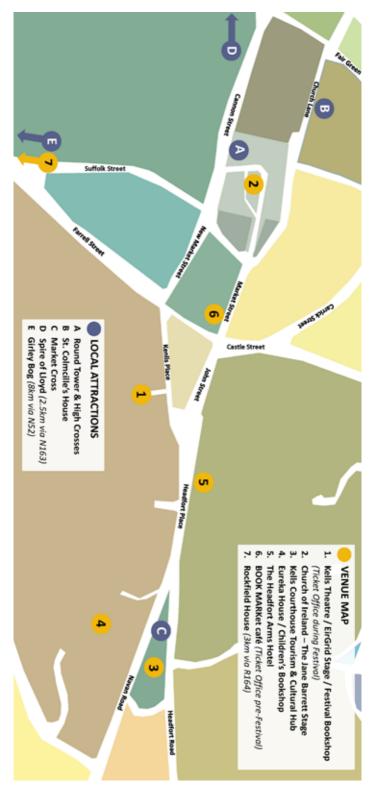


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Together we can deliver a cleaner energy future

At EirGrid, operator of the electricity grid, we're leading the move to cleaner energy. By 2020, nearly 40% of Ireland's electricity came from renewable sources. Now we're working to bring more renewable energy onto the grid, so we can reach up to 80% by 2030.

With the support of communities like yours, we can realise Ireland's world class potential to deliver a renewable energy future, securing our electricity supply and helping the country to become more energy independent.

